IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Continuation Patent Application Of:) Prior Application:

Kenneth Kiron and Kevin S. Bander   ) Application No. 09/140,868

) Filed: August 27, 1998

Mailed: May 26, 2000   ) Art Unit: 2761

) Examiner: S. Tkacs

For: Open End Mutual Fund Securitization Process) Present Application:

) Examiner: Not Assigned

) Art Unit: Not Assigned

Box Patent Application

Fee

Commissioner For Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

      The above-identified Application is a continuation of co-pending prior U.S. Application No. 09/140,868 filed August 27, 1998 which is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 08/542,431 filed October 12, 1995 now U.S. Patent No. 5,806,048. Before examination, please amend the instant Application as follows:

In the Specification:

      On page 1, line 5 (of the Substitute Specification), please insert

      - - This Application is a continuation of co-pending prior U.S. Application No. 09/140,868 filed August 27, 1998 which is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 08/542,431 filed October 12, 1995 now U.S. Patent No. 5,806,048.- -.

In the Claims:

      Please cancel Claims 19-51 and add the following Claims:

--   52.   An electronic data processing method for administering a financial product traded as a security comprising:

        a)   creating a mutual fund comprising a plurality a selected portfolio of securities;

        b)   receiving information on each of said one or more securities in the selected portfolio in an electronic data format;

        c)   processing said information to determine in real time the price of the financial product on the basis of a user-defined method of weighting the selected portfolio of securities.

        53.   A method comprising the steps of: